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On 13 November 1950, there was a meeting of approximately 120 selected Hauptinstrukteure who had helped organize the 15 October elections in the DDR at the Kreis level. The meeting, held in the Lothringerstr. Headquarters of the SED in Berlin, was addressed by Paul Verner who is the chief of the Org-instrukteur department in the Central Committee of the SED. Following is a résumé of the main points covered by Verner in his two-hour talk, entitled "Terminal exchange of experiences based on the 15 October elections, and new instructions for the future".

1. Verner stated that the report of the third plenary session of the SED Politbureau should be considered the point of departure for his lecture. He then thanked, in the name of the SED Central Committee, the Hauptinstrukteure for their cooperation in winning the elections for the DDR. By means of this victory, he stated, the platform for the future is established, and it is possible to proceed with new boldness towards the next stage.
2. The methods used by the Party in winning these elections can serve as a model for the future. The use of flying propaganda squads, committees of all kinds, with their local booths and offices, etc., are all devices which aroused the masses even in those segments opposed to the system. The important result is that the people came out and voted.
3. The needs of the people were met by means of the elections - or will be soon. The DDR election system is important for its content (program), whereas the West German system is based on juridical niceties.
4. The responsible role in the preparation of the elections was played by the SED.
5. The Hauptinstrukteure must continue their work of education begun for the purpose of the election campaign. This work is to concentrate on the following points:

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A. The four points contained in the Prague Resolution were carefully conceived and designed to give the West a humiliating slap in the face. In West Germany there is a gratifying opposition among the people to the Western proposals for remilitarization.

B. Schumacher is to be attacked as a tool of Marshall and Acheson in their program to prepare the people for a new war. Schumacher is organizing groups of men to shout down the anti-war partisans. Therefore the sense of the Prague resolutions must be hammered into the people. With reference to the word "parity", contained in one of the four points, Verner emphasized that this was included in order to ensure that neither side would be at a disadvantage in the negotiations (referring to the proposed constituent council).

C. The 15 November 1950 statement of policy of the DDR government is to be brought home to the people by all means, emphasizing that the DDR is no longer a temporary government. Propaganda groups organized by the FDJ, the FDGB, and by the National Front are to assist energetically in this campaign of education.

D. The program of preparation for the Five Year Plan has not yet been popularized enough, although the necessary directives have already been issued. A case in point is the information that 24 factories are to be made over into heavy industry installations in the process of the plan. Other aspects which have not been sufficiently propagandized are the activist movement, the quality program, and the program for watchfulness against imperialist agents. With regard to the latter, the Hauptinstrukteure are to cite a certain few crass examples well-known to everyone.

E. An important aim is the execution of the resolution of the FDGB for improvement in the headquarters of the FDGB industrial unions, which have been accused of bureaucratic formalism and of "Prakticismus", i.e., the tendency to do what is practical rather than that which the Party has decided is correct. The FDGB is the most important instrument in the program of the Party.

F. Work in the rural areas is difficult. Partly to correct this, the VdgB and the village cooperatives are to be fused by February 1951 into an organization called the Farmers' Trade Cooperatives (Bäuerliche Handelsgenossenschaften). This reorganization will have, in part, the result that social (political) work in the villages will be made easier. Local rural interests must retreat before the important tasks of the DDR government. The owners of large farms (Dorf Paschas) must be eliminated because of their disproportionate influence in the community. In line with this concept, the machine lending stations (MAS) are to be strengthened so that they are not, as they often are at present, dependent on the machinery of the owners of large farms. Special attention is to be paid to the youth within the new Bäuerliche Handelsgenossenschaften. Jobs for them are to be made available in the HO; courses are to be started for them in bookkeeping, etc., and everything possible is to be done to give them an ideal for the future. In general, the MAS and the VEG's (state-owned farms) are to become centers of Party cultural work. We must put our best people into the Bäuerliche Handelsgenossenschaften.

G. In conclusion, the goal must be the acceleration of the ideological, political, and organizational education of the masses.

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6. From mid-January until June 1951, there will be a review of all SED Party membership books, and the old books will be replaced by new ones.* From mid-November 1950 on, no new members will be admitted to the Party until this book exchange has been completed. A large number of investigating commissions is to be formed for the purpose of scrutinizing each member in turn as his book comes up for review. These commissions are intended to interview Party members not known to them intimately, in order to insure impartiality. One of the main purposes of this review is to get rid of hostile elements within the Party. Previous friendship with persons who have since been revealed as Schumacher agents is to be cause for expulsion from the Party. The owners of large farms and industrialists who are in the Party are to be examined most thoroughly in this process. At the same time, the commissions will inspect Party units as such, in search of signs of "Prakticismus". This exchange of books is intended at the same time to adjust the internal composition of the Party and to provide an accurate break-down of the component members. Candidate members are to be vetted concurrently with members, and they will also be provided with new certificates in place of the present ones. The possible lines of action which may be taken by the commissions are as follows:
- A. The member may be passed with flying colors, in which case he gets a new book to replace his old one.
 - B. The member may be subject to suspicion on some point or other which is not too serious; in this case he may be stricken from the rolls without actually being expelled from the Party. He does not receive a new book and is suspended until he can be reinstated.
 - C. The member may be expelled from the Party. If this measure is taken, the member is also to be discharged from whatever position he may have in public service.
 - D. The member may be demoted to candidate status until he has proved himself.
7. Verner next criticized the misuse of "Party mission" (Partei-auftrag), pointing out that this phrase should be reserved for specific concrete tasks and should not be applied to general continuing obligations which should be fulfilled as a matter of course by all Party members. In particular, the Parteiaktiv cannot issue a Parteiauftrag. This is a function reserved for formal Party unit headquarters. In the future, an exact record will be kept of Parteiauftraege issued, and a check will be made to see if they have been accomplished.
8. The Party also intends to check more closely on the fulfillment of the work plans of the various Party units. These investigations will be guided by the watchwords "collectivity" and "collegiality".** Furthermore, the work plans must be drawn up in practical details and must not contain general propaganda statements.
9. In general, the Party must intensify its work in all directions. We know that a considerable percentage of the people is against us, and that our opponents are not limited to a few leading individuals. The work of the Instruktore from now on is to provide incentive to stimulate the work of the Party units themselves. The Instruktore are to avoid moving into an area, as they did during the pre-election period, as though they were an independent combat team, doing all the work themselves. It is the duty of the Party units to do the actual work. In particular, the Instruktore are not to get themselves involved in actual arguments with the people. This is to be left to the local Party authorities.
10. As far as elections go, there will be none in the near future. Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R006200340014-5
 The Politburo says they should be held every four years, but....

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11. Of the 130 Hauptinstruktore designated directly by the SED Central Committee for the election program, three had proved unsatisfactory and have been dealt with accordingly.
12. During the question and comment period following Verner's talk, the following points were made:
 - A. The Hauptinstrukteur from Kreis Waren in Mecklenburg spoke for half an hour and complained that the people in that Kreis are "terribly reactionary". At that point, a representative of all of Mecklenburg remarked that this was not only true of Kreis Waren but of the whole Land.
 - B. Some criticism was directed at the organs of the National Front, which had tended to relax in the post-election period and rest on their laurels instead of continuing the fight.
 - C. The Hauptinstrukteur responsible for the Leuna works stated that he had been whistled out of the factory by the workers there. He complained that there were 700 activists in the factory, of whom 200 were in the SED, but that the activists did not cooperate with him in the campaigning. Similar conditions prevailed in the Buna works. It was mentioned that the Leuna works employs 26,000, while the Buna works employs 18,000.
13. Verner then summed up the meeting with the following concluding remarks:
 - A. The arguments of our Western opponents must be rebutted (he gave as an example the current propaganda line capitalizing on the statement by McCloy that the Americans are doing the same thing in Germany that they are in Korea).
 - B. Western resistance to remilitarization must be fostered and increased.
 - C. The so-called Aufklaerungslokalen*** are to remain in business, insofar as they have proved their worth, but the poorer ones are to be closed down.
 - D. The new bourgeois elements who have risen to prominence as a result of the elections are not to be dropped now that the elections are over, but are to be cultivated and used in the interests of the SED. Reactionary officials, however, are to be unmasked by directing embarrassing questions at them.

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* ~~SECRET~~ Comment: For a previous reference to this, see paragraph B.

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** ~~SECRET~~ Comment: Presumably, a translation of the German Kollektivitaet and Kollegialitaet. The German original is not available for comparison to this office.

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*** ~~SECRET~~ Comment: Information centers.

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